THE LINE OF DC SUPER-STARS

ACTION COMICS

IN THIS ISSUE: GREEN ARROW AND BLACK CANARY!

ACTION COMICS

25¢
NO. 445
MAR.
30410

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

JUST IN TIME...

...TO KEEP MY DATE WITH LOIS LANE!

A DOOMSDAY THRILLER...

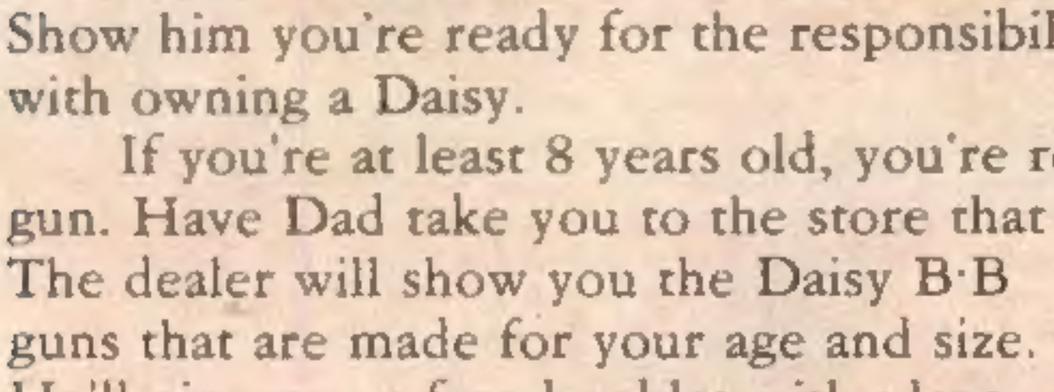
"COUNT TEN, SUPERMAN--AND DIE!"

This could be the year you get a Daisy.®

Here's how.

If you want the fun of owning a Daisy B·B gun, talk to Dad. Show him you're ready for the responsibility that goes along with owning a Daisy.

If you're at least 8 years old, you're ready to own a Daisy B·B gun. Have Dad take you to the store that sells Daisy B·B guns. The dealer will show you the Daisy B·B guns that are made for your age and size. He'll give you a free booklet with plans so you and Dad can make a B·B gun range that takes only 15 feet of space. Dad can help you learn the rules of proper gun handling from the booklet, too.



If your dealer is out of booklets, write directly to Daisy for your free copy.

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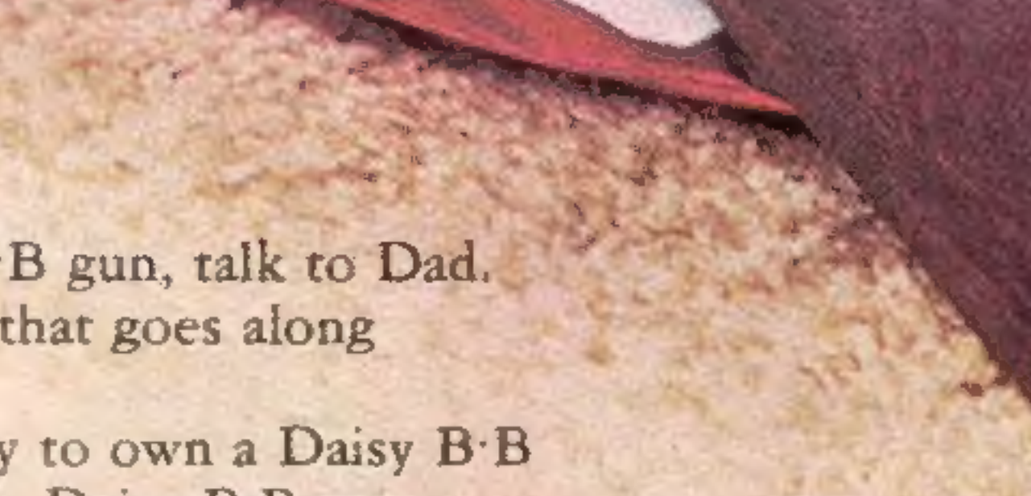
Which Daisy is right for your age?



Ⓐ Model 104 Scope Scout™ B·B Gun

Ⓑ Model 25 B·B Gun

Ⓒ Model 7454 Pellet Gun

Answers: Ⓐ 8-10 years old Ⓑ 10-12 years old Ⓒ 12 years and older

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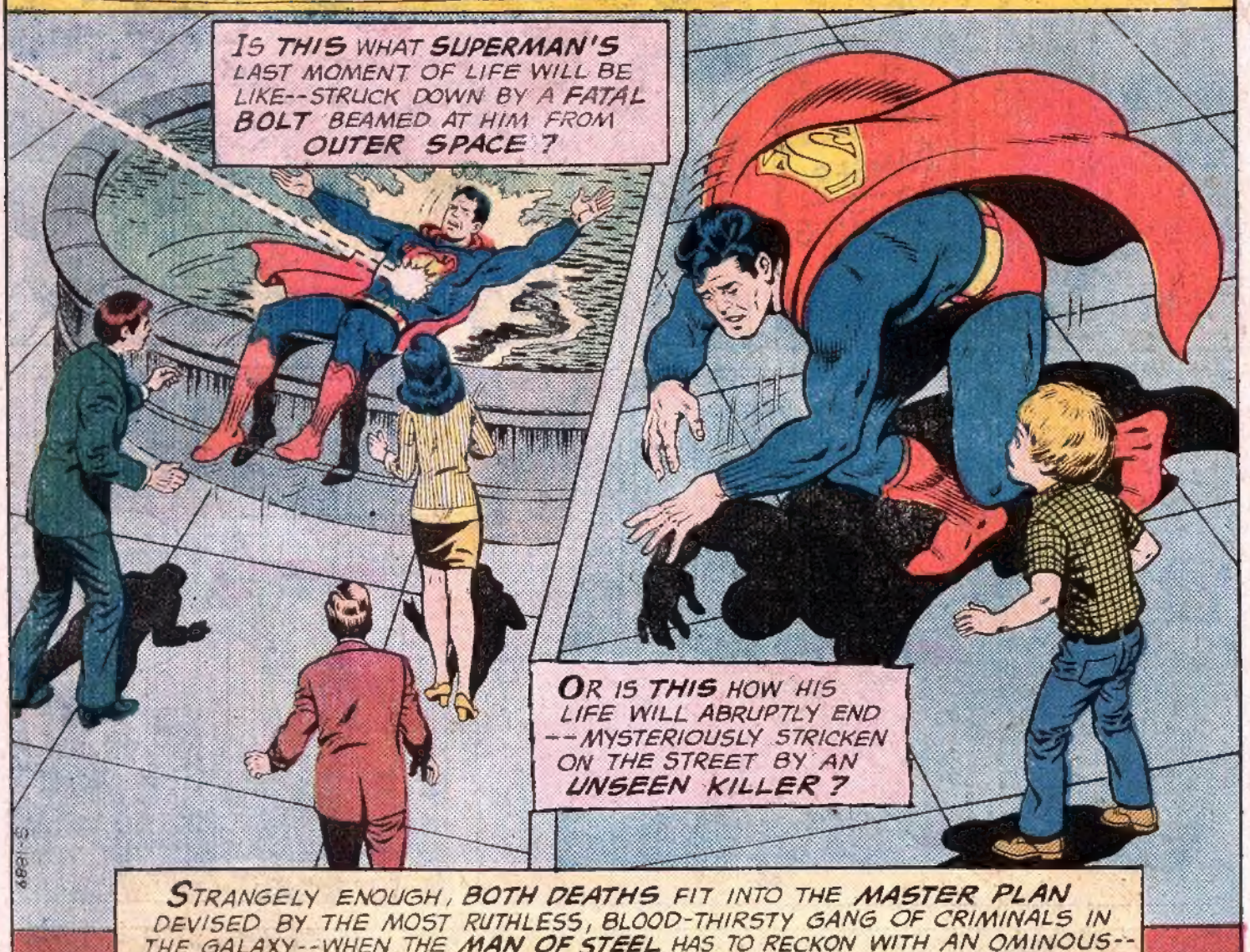
A NEW ACTION-CRAMMED SUSPENSEFUL SAGA STARRING THE ONE AND ONLY

SUPERMAN®



STRANGELY ENOUGH, BOTH DEATHS FIT INTO THE MASTER PLAN DEVISED BY THE MOST RUTHLESS, BLOOD-THIRSTY GANG OF CRIMINALS IN THE GALAXY--WHEN THE MAN OF STEEL HAS TO RECKON WITH AN OMINOUS--

"COUNT TEN, SUPERMAN--AND DIE!"

Story: CARY BATES Art: CURT SWAN and K. SCHAFFENBERGER Editing: JULIUS SCHWARTZ

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2200 MILES WEST OF METROPOLIS...

DANGER! BLASTING AREA!

KRASSHSSHHH

THANKS A HEAP, SUPERMAN!

TUNNELING THROUGH THAT MOUNTAIN WOULD'VE TAKEN US A SOLID WEEK!

BETTER POUR ON THE SPEED! I'M ALREADY LATE FOR THE LECTURE!

SCANT SECONDS LATER, WE JOIN THE HEROIC FIGURE ADDRESSING AN AUDIENCE AT THE METROPOLIS CIVIC CENTER...

...AND PEOPLE OFTEN ASK ME WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE RECOGNIZED...

...AS THE MAN OF STEEL WHEREVER I GO...

CLARK KENT! WHERE ON EARTH HAVE YOU BEEN? THE LECTURE IS ALMOST OVER!

WHAT?! HOW CAN CLARK KENT BE IN THE AUDIENCE AT THE SAME TIME SUPERMAN IS ON STAGE?

I DIDN'T MEAN TO BE TARDY, LOIS--

--BUT I... ER... RAN INTO A MOUNTAIN OF TROUBLE ON THE WAY OVER!

LISTEN CAREFULLY -- AND THE RIDDLE WILL BE SOON ANSWERED...

...BUT TO BE SERIOUS FOR A MOMENT, FOLKS--

--MANY OF YOU KNOW MY FACE WAS BADLY DISFIGURED BY AN ACCIDENT ON THE SET OF MY SUPERMAN TV SERIES A FEW YEARS AGO!

I WAS UNSIGHTLY--

--HOPELESSLY SCARRED FOR LIFE, EVEN BEYOND THE HELP OF PLASTIC SURGERY--

--UNTIL THE REAL SUPERMAN SAVED THE DAY-- AND MY FACE-- BY OPERATING ON ME HIMSELF--

--USING SPECIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES PERFECTED BY SCIENTISTS OF HIS SUPER-ADVANCED PLANET KRYPTON!

AS ALL OF YOU CAN PLAINLY SEE, I REQUESTED THAT MY NEW FACE BE MODELED AFTER THE FACE OF MY EXTRAORDINARY "SUPER-SURGEON"--

--THE MAN OF STEEL I SPENT SO MANY YEARS PORTRAYING ON THE SCREEN!

AMAZING, ISN'T IT?

I HEAR HE WEARS MUSCLE-PADDING UNDERNEATH THE UNIFORM... BUT OTHER THAN THAT, THIS ACTOR, GREGORY REED, IS AN EXACT DOUBLE OF SUPERMAN!

WHY, HE'S EVEN MANAGED TO MIMIC HIS VOICE PERFECTLY!

ANOTHER ACTOR IN GREG'S UNIQUE POSITION MIGHT TRY TO TAKE APVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION... BUT NOT HIM!

GREG DEVOTES ALL OF HIS SPARE TIME TO PERSONAL APPEARANCES ON BEHALF OF VARIOUS CHARITIES!

"GREG"--?!

CLARK, I DIDN'T KNOW YOU TWO WERE SO CHUMMY!

FIRST NAMES ARE JUST A REPORTER'S LICENSE, LOIS! I NEVER *MET* THE MAN!

...AT LEAST NOT AS *CLARK KENT!**

*THE STORY OF HOW *SUPERMAN* FIRST ENCOUNTERED *GREGORY REED* APPEARED IN *ACTION COMICS #414, "SUPERMAN VS. SUPERSTAR!"* --Editor

THANK YOU, THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS APPLAUSE!

I'M SURE YOUR *DONATIONS* WILL BE JUST AS GENEROUS...WHEN REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE *HEART FUND* TAKE YOUR PLEDGES OUTSIDE, IN THE *CIVIC CENTER GARDEN!*

LOOKS LIKE GREG REED IS MINGLING WITH THE CROWD AWHILE!

MORE LIKE THE *CROWD* IS MINGLING WITH *HIM!*

IT'S ALMOST AS IF THESE PEOPLE WERE RESPONDING TO THE *REAL SUPERMAN!*

TELL ME, MR. REED... HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO HAVE *SUPER-POWERS* TO GO ALONG WITH THE FACE AND THE EMBLEM?

MATTER OF FACT, MISS LANE, I *HAVEN'T* WONDERED...

...BECAUSE *I ALREADY KNOW!*

SUPERMAN ONCE PROMISED A DYING GIRL'S PARENTS HE'D PERSONALLY PUT ON A SUPER-SHOW FOR THEIR DAUGHTER...WHEN A LAST-MINUTE CRISIS TOOK HIM ELSEWHERE!

SUPERMAN CONTACTED *ME*--

--AND PROVIDED ME WITH A WONDROUS *PILL* HE CONCOCTED--

--THAT GAVE ME *SOME* OF HIS SUPER-POWERS FOR *12 HOURS*, SO *I* COULD PERFORM FOR THE LITTLE GIRL IN HIS PLACE!

WHAT A TOUCHING STORY...!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING.

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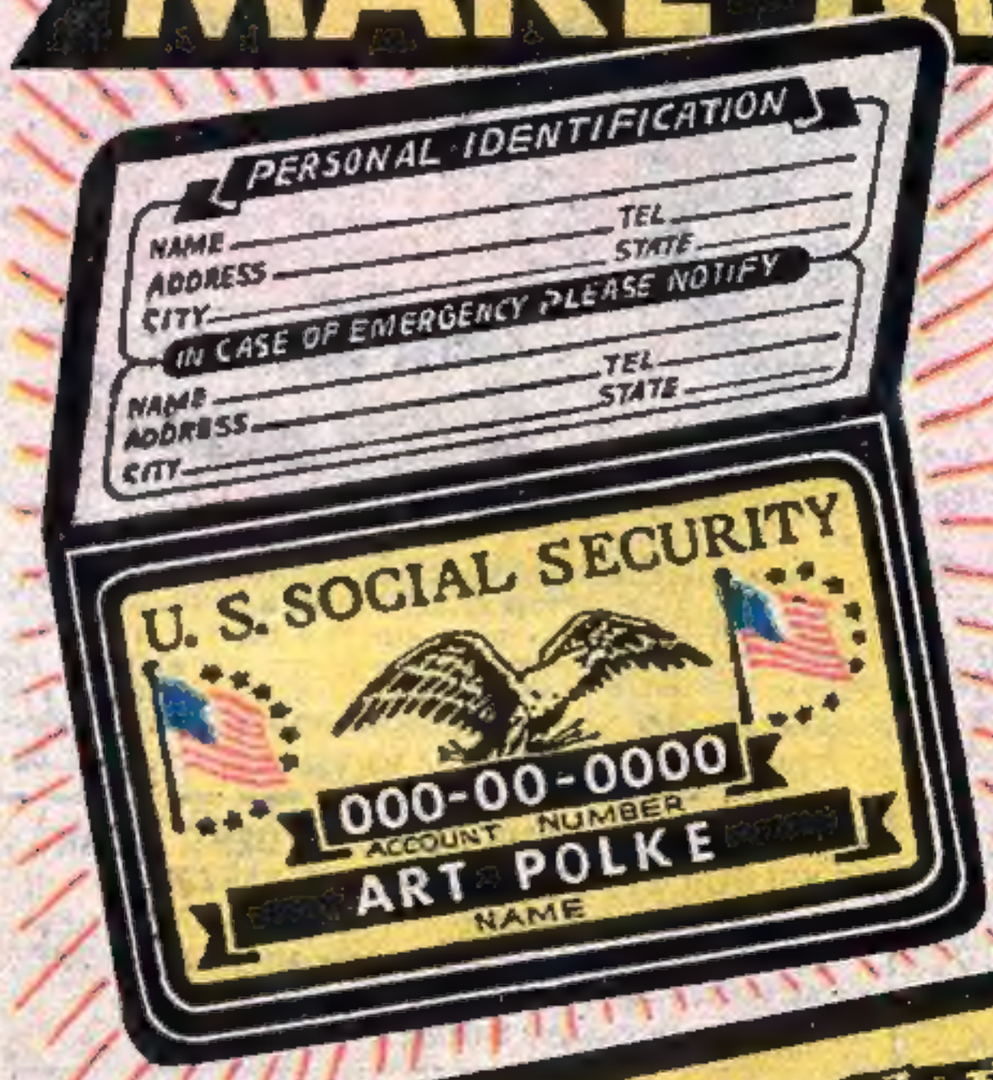

Start making money at once in your spare time selling beautiful LIFETIME METAL SOCIAL SECURITY PLATES and METAL DOOR PLATES! Sells on sight! The fastest business to get into requiring no investment. Everything you need will be sent in the FREE SALES KIT.

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SMOKE CLOUD

Light one and watch the column of thick white smoke rise to the ceiling and expand into a dense cloud. Sensational surprising effect

No. 871 ..... 25c

5 for 89¢

SECRET BOOK SAFE

With Combination Lock Only You Can Open — ONLY $1.98

Looks like any book to camouflage your valuables. Securely locked with your own private combination. Tough under-structure is covered with simulated leather binding.

No. 700 ..... $1.69

SILENT DOG WHISTLE

This whistle can't be heard by human ears, but Rover can hear it half a mile away. Your dog will understand that this whistle is for him alone. Be amazed how quickly he responds.

No. 701 ..... $1.00

MONSTER

7 FEET TALL / IN AUTHENTIC COLORS

GLOW in the DARK EYES

ONLY $1.00

Bigger than life—Frankenstein, the man made monster. Giant 7 foot tall, his eyes glow eerily in authentic color on durable polyethelene, as scary as your wildest nightmare

7 FOOT MONSTER

No. 865 ..... $1.00

MONSTER-SIZE SKELETON

No. F200 ..... $1.00

MUSCLES OF STEEL

Results in just 30 days

Pocket gym slaps inches of muscle on your arms and torso. Gain the respect of your friends —the admiration of the girls. Keep fit and healthy. Fear no one! Made of heavy rubber

No. 7001 ..... only $1.00

SKIN HEAD WIG

Most people try to grow hair. This is just the opposite. Made of flesh toned latex to fit all heads, really changes your appearance. No. A38 ..... $1.00

FOAMING SUGAR

Looks just like real sugar, but that's where the resemblance stops. When it's dropped in liquid, they overflow and form clouds of suds. Seems as though it'll never stop.

No. 648 ..... 30c

WORLDS UGLIEST HANDS

Slip these knobby "paws" on and watch your friends disappear. Ugh! They're awful! If you're got the courage, maybe you can have fun(?) with these.

Item No. 607...$1.98

JOY BUZZER

Windup novelty you wear like a ring. Your victim gets a "SHOCKING" hand shake. Absolutely harmless

No. 229 ..... Only 75¢

XRAY SPECS

AN HILARIOUS OPTICAL ILLUSION — ONLY $1.25

Scientific optical principle really works. With Xray Specs you seem to be able to look through flesh and see the bones underneath. Look at your friend. Is that really his body you "see" under his clothes?

No. XL7 ..... $1.25

20 Course Home Study Program

FEAR NO MAN

The Ancient Oriental Art of

KUNG FU KARATE

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JUDO • KARATE • ISOMETRICS • STUNTS

GUARANTEED 10 Day Trial

KFU...$1.25

ONLY 3.98

Weighted Wristlets

"Power Packed" Arm Builders To Give you mighty striking power

"Power Packed" wristlets build the powerful arms you want without special equipment or exercises. Just wear these rugged lead-weighted wristlets during your ordinary activities at work or play.

#980 ...$3.98 each

ONION GUM

Looks like real chewing gum but tastes like ONIONS! It's too funny! 5 slices to a pack

No. 281 ..... 40c

MONEYMAKER

Insert a blank piece of paper, turn the knob ... and ... OUT COMES A REAL DOLLAR BILL! Insert the dollar and it changes to a $5 then the $5 changes to $10

A135 ..... 1.25

WEREWOLF HORROR MASK

This rubber mask is so grotesque that it is sure to shake up the whole neighborhood. Be the "WeTewolf" that prowls again!

No. 26W....$1.98

THROW YOUR VOICE

Throw your voice into trunks, behind doors, everywhere. Fits in your mouth out of sight. Fool teacher, friends, family. Free book on "How to Become a Ventriloquist"

No. 137 ..... 25c

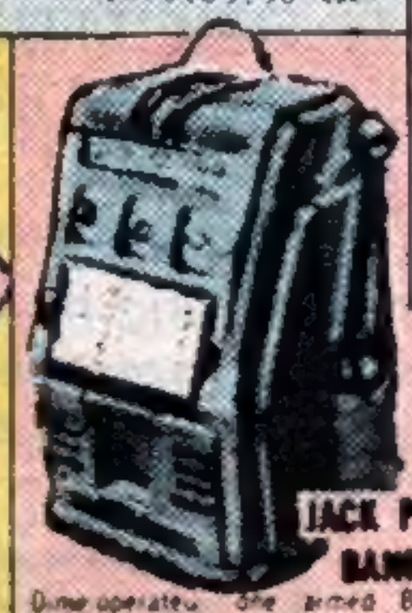
PHONY CAST

Imitation white plaster arm cast complete with arm sling. Looks like the real thing! Fits teenagers or adults. A4 ..... $1.98

SURPRISE PACKAGE

Are you willing to take a chance? We won't tell you what you get, but because you're willing to gamble, we'll give you more than your money's worth

No. 670 ..... Only 50c



JACK POT BANK

Dime operated. The armed Bandit works like those in Las Vegas. Deposit dime, pull handle, and reels spin like the real thing. Dimes are removable. Should not be used for gambling

No. 2068 ..... $2.98

Secret Spy Scope

PEN SIZE—CLIPS ON YOUR POCKET & POWER MAGNIFIER

Six power wide field magnifier is great for watching sporting events, nature study, girl watching and counter spying. Also contains a 30 power microscope. Not a toy but a real optical instrument

No. F59 ..... $1.98

Authentic SUPERMAN Costume

only $6.98

Just slip into this authentic "Superman" costume, put on the concealing mask, and in seconds you are Superman, that fearless fighter of evil. Made of long lasting, fire retarded materials to give you weeks and months of fun. Be the first on your block - the envy of your friends. Send only $6.98

Item # CM100

Scary Life Size

MONSTER GHOST

Obeys Your Commands!

OVER 3 FEET TALL

Scare the daylights out of your "victim" as this terrifying life size ghost hovers and darts over him. Can be controlled up to 50 feet away so you can hide while watching your victim. Complete instructions included

#2101 ..... $1.00

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Rush me the items listed below. If I am not 100% satisfied, I may return any part of my purchase after 10 days FREE TRIAL for full refund of purchase price.

We cannot accept orders totaling less than $1.00.

NAME & NUMBER OF ITEM	HOW MANY	TOTAL PRICE

Please add 25c to total order for postage and handling.

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED

For COD orders please send 50c good will deposit. Pay postman the balance on delivery plus COD and handling charges.

NAME

ADDRESS ZIP

New York State residents add appropriate sales tax

SSPLASSHH!

MERCIFUL HEAVENS!

WHAT *HIT* THE POOR GUY?!

BEATS ME! I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING!

THIS IS A JOB FOR *SUPERMAN*... THE *REAL ONE!*

WITH ALL EYES FOCUSED ON MY LOOK-ALIKE, NO ONE'S GOING TO SEE A RED-AND-BLUE *BLUR* SHOOT OUT OF THE BUSHES--!

BUT WAIT...

BEFORE THE *MAN OF MIGHT* RUSHES TO THE AID OF HIS STRICKEN DOUBLE, LET *US* FLASH BACK IN TIME A FEW MOMENTS--

--TO A RATHER OMINOUS-LOOKING **SPACESHIP** HOVERING DIRECTLY OVER THE **CIVIC CENTER**-- AT AN ALTITUDE FAR ABOVE THE RANGE OF THE NAKED EYE...

...A SHIP THAT BELONGS TO THE MOST **RUTHLESS** INTERPLANETARY GANG IN THE GALAXY -- THE **SUPERMAN REVENGE SQUAD!**

IDIOT!

YOU FIRED THE **PULS-BOLT** AT THE **WRONG MAN!**

BUT, SIRE--OUR READINGS TOLD US **SUPERMAN** WAS IN THAT **GARDEN!**

THWAK

ABSOLUTELY **CORRECT!**

BUT DID IT NOT OCCUR TO YOU HE MIGHT BE DRESSED IN HIS **CLARK KENT** IDENTITY?

THE **"SUPERMAN"** YOU BEAMED WAS AN **IMPOSTOR** IN COSTUME!

ASIDE FROM A BRIEF BLACKOUT, THE **PULS-BOLT** WILL HAVE **NO EFFECT** ON HIM!

A TOTAL **WASTE!**

NOT SO, SIRE! THE REAL **SUPERMAN** HAS JUST SHED HIS OUTER GARMENTS AND COME OUT INTO THE OPEN!

THIS TIME I WILL **NOT** MISS THE TARGET!

OUR **PULS-BOLT** IS **INVISIBLE!** NO ONE SAW THE **FIRST** BEAM ...AND NO ONE WILL NOTICE **THIS ONE--**

--NOT EVEN **SUPERMAN** HIMSELF!

SUPERMAN! THANK GOODNESS YOU ARE HERE NOW!

IS HE--

HE'S STILL BREATHING... COULDN'T HAVE SWALLOWED MUCH WATER!

I'LL RUSH HIM TO THE NEAREST HOSPITAL FOR A COMPLETE CHECK-UP!

VERY GOOD, SR-5! YOU WERE ON THE BEAM!

OUR COUNTDOWN OF FATAL FEATS CAN NOW BEGIN!

PRECISELY WHEN CAN WE BE CERTAIN SUPERMAN WILL DIE, SIRE?

THAT DEPENDS ON HIM!

EVERY TIME HE EXPENDS ENERGY PERFORMING A SUPER-FEAT, THE PULS-FLOW WITHIN HIM WILL GROW STRONGER... AND STRONGER...

...UNTIL, TEN SUPER-FEATS LATER, THE SEETHING PULS-FLOW WILL BE CHARGED ENOUGH TO LETHALLY POISON HIS KRYPTONIAN BODY!

THE VERY INSTANT HE FINISHES THAT TENTH FEAT--

--SUPERMAN WILL, AS THEY SAY HERE ON EARTH, DROP DEAD!

FROM NOW ON, WE MUST MONITOR EARTH AT ALL TIMES... SO OUR SCANNERS CAN PICK UP SUPERMAN WHENEVER HE GOES INTO ACTION!

FLYING THE ACTOR TO THE HOSPITAL IS FEAT NUMBER ONE!

A COUPLE OF HOURS LATER, 8,000 FEET OVER THE COUNTRY-SIDE WEST OF METROPOLIS...

SO LONG, SUCKERS!

THIS IS NOW I GET EVEN WITH YOU THREE FOR CUTTING ME OUT OF THE ACT!

BLAST THAT BAXTER! HE'S MADE SURE THIS IS OUR LAST JUMP!

OUR HANDS--STUCK TOGETHER SO TIGHTLY WE CAN'T PULL THEM APART!

THE CREEP MUST HAVE GIMMICKED OUR GLOVES WITH A QUICK-DRYING GLUE!

MAN, YOU KNOW WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN IF WE DON'T PULL OUR RIPCORDS--?

LOOK BELOW, LITTLE BROTHER--THE ANSWER'S COMING UP FAST!

WHAT A WAY TO GO!

HI, FELLA! MIND IF I HORN IN?

I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO JOIN A SKY-DIVING TEAM!

SUPERMAN--!

YOU'RE JUST IN TIME--

--TO SAVE OUR NECKS!

YOU MEAN--BY PULLING ON ALL THREE RIPCORDS--?

HAPPY LANDINGS, GUYS! I'M OFF TO ARREST YOUR EX-PARTNER ON THREE COUNTS OF ATTEMPTED MURDER!

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

Wear Zolatron Simulated Diamond Ring 30 Days Free Without Risk or Obligation

SPECIAL OFFER
to readers of this magazine

FULL ONE CARAT$ Simulated Diamond (Set in Genuine Silver Ring) 10.

ZOLATRON LIFETIME GUARANTEE
Zolatron is unconditionally guaranteed for life against all defects. If found faulty during buyer's lifetime, it will be replaced or we will refund purchase price. This guarantee is in addition to regular 30 day money back guarantee

Zolatron must convince everybody that it's a genuine diamond—or you pay nothing!

The 30-Day Free Trial Certificate shown below gives you the right to wear and enjoy—this ZOLATRON simulated diamond ring for an entire month—without risk or obligation!

WEAR IT—JUDGE FOR YOURSELF!

Wear and prove it in the privacy of your own home. Marvel at the pure, dazzling color and fiery sparkle! Show it to friends. See how their eyes pop with excitement! After all, they have no way to suspect it isn't a genuine African diamond worth a fortune!

ZOLATRON is completely different from phony-looking plastic stones glued into cheap jewelry. Prove the big difference *yourself* with this tough, daring test: (1) Drop this dense, man-made stone into a cup of acetone nail polish remover. *Don't worry!* Simply rinse it off and it's as good as new! (2) Examine the polished and precision-cut facets — how dramatically they shimmer — even in moonlight! (3) Inspect it carefully under a hi-power, illuminated magnifier. Not a bubble, crack, or carbon speck!

Yes! We challenge you to compare ZOLATRONS with costly African diamonds. Not one diamond out of a hundred, extracted from the fabulous Kimberley Mines, can beat it for color, clarity, or flawless perfection! That's why even an expert might confuse it for a regular diamond!

UNDER 1% PRICE OF DIAMONDS!

Now you can own a FULL CARAT ZOLATRON — set in a fabulous Tiffany Design Lady's Ring for only $10 — subject to terms and conditions of this SPECIAL LIMITED OFFER. The average cost of a 1 carat diamond gem is $1,250.00 or more. Yet the resemblance between a diamond and ZOLATRON is so striking, only an expert can tell them apart!

DON'T LET LOW PRICE CONFUSE YOU!

Because ZOLATRON costs only $10, don't confuse it with cheap, dull fakes! This man-made stone is not another plastic jewel. ZOLATRON is one of the world's most dazzling, convincing simulations! Mounted into a beautiful Solitaire Ring of genuine, costly silver! When you see it, you'll agree: it's truly an impressive ring of rare beauty and elegance! And each ring is guaranteed to give you a lifetime of wear and enjoyment! Of course, ZOLATRON is different from natural diamonds. But the most pleasant difference of all is that you can own a ZOLATRON for only $10 . . . *not* $1,250.00.

MILLIONAIRES ALSO WEAR SIMULATIONS!

Many wealthy persons wear simulated diamonds, but keep the secret to themselves. Those "genuine" diamonds your friends are wearing may not be "genuine", after all! ZOLATRONS are so unbelievably real looking — they may even fool certain experts at times! That's why so many rich people, actors and actresses wear simulations. They impress fans and friends and avoid risk of burglary or loss. Of course, rich people do own costly African diamonds. But many keep them locked up in bank vaults!

LIFETIME GIFT FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL!

ZOLATRONS last a lifetime and so do regular diamonds! ZOLATRONS make thrilling exciting gifts for special occasions . . an anniversary . . . an engagement or graduation . . . or just a delightful surprise for *Someone Special*. She'll never know ZOLATRON isn't a genuine diamond — unless you tell her! This *Gift of Happiness* costs only $10 . . . while supplies are available. By choosing a ZOLATRON you save plenty for a down payment on a car, stocks, or real estate. Many smart people have switched to simulated diamonds. Now you can also — at small cost. *You take no risk.* Our 2 guarantees give you *complete* protection!

ALSO AVAILABLE.
MAN'S ONE CARAT ZOLATRON RING
Terrific Lifetime Design! **Heavy Gold Electroplate.** Mounted with big, 1 Carat ZOLATRON. Makes great gift for HIM! May be ordered with lady's ring or separately. But only one of each to a reader. Only **$10** with **prepaid** delivery to your door. Satisfaction guaranteed or money back

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(1) **LIMIT:** no more than **ONE** lady's or **ONE** man's ring per reader at this price. If you wish, you may order **both** rings — but no more than **one** of each. (2) Shipped only to USA or Canada. (3) Sold only by mail — none thru stores. (4) Guaranteed for lifetime of purchaser — if ever defective. (5) No COD or phone orders. (6) Satisfaction guaranteed or money back quick. (7) **IMPORTANT!** This is a strictly **LIMITED OFFER.** Orders arriving after stock is sold out, will be returned to senders promptly

30 Day Money Back Guarantee
Wear and enjoy ring up to 30 days. Show to friends. If **anyone** can detect it from a genuine diamond, return for refund **instantly**

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This Certificate entitles you to **ONE** Zolatron Lady's Ring on 30 day free trial! Send only $10 for prompt, prepaid delivery. Complete satisfaction guaranteed or money back — at once! **NOTE:** If **MAN'S ring** is wanted check box at the **bottom** of this coupon.

YOUR friends must actually believe you're wearing a genuine diamond ring — or you pay nothing. **NOTICE:** Only **ONE** of each ring given at this price

CHECK RING SIZE BELOW.

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If size is unknown, send paper strip.

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☐ **CHECK HERE** for **MAN'S RING** — only $10 delivered
Sizes 8 thru 13. Write size here _____

GEE! LOOK AT ALL THE GREAT STUFF IN THE *THIRD BIG ISSUE* OF THE *AMAZING WORLD OF DC COMICS!*

*JULIE SCHWARTZ... THAT'S ME! I'LL GIVE YOU A PEEK INTO MY EDITORIAL MIND, TO SHOW YOU HOW I HANDLE MY SUPER-HEROES AND THE NEW *JOKER* MAG!

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- SNEAK PEEK AT *DC*'s '75 LINE-UP!
- AN UNPUBLISHED *GOLDEN AGE GREEN LANTERN* STORY!
- COMICS GO TO COLLEGE!
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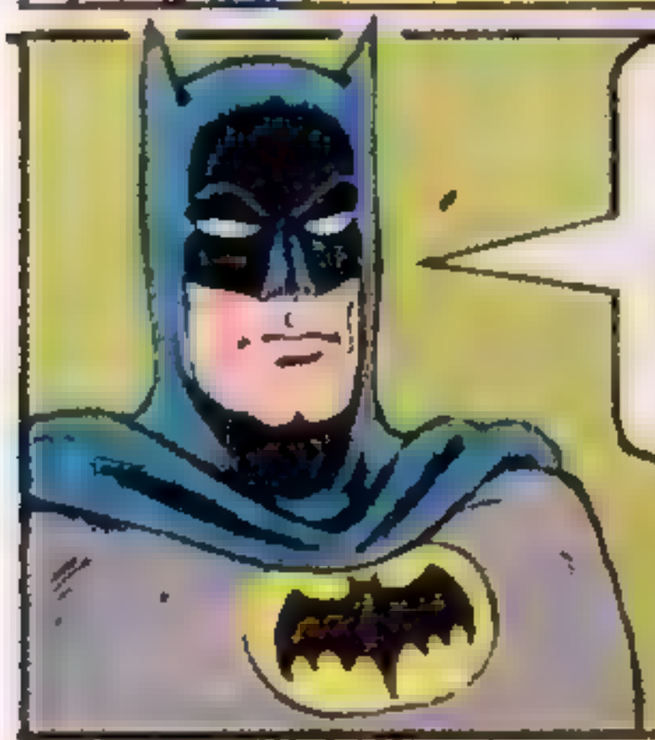

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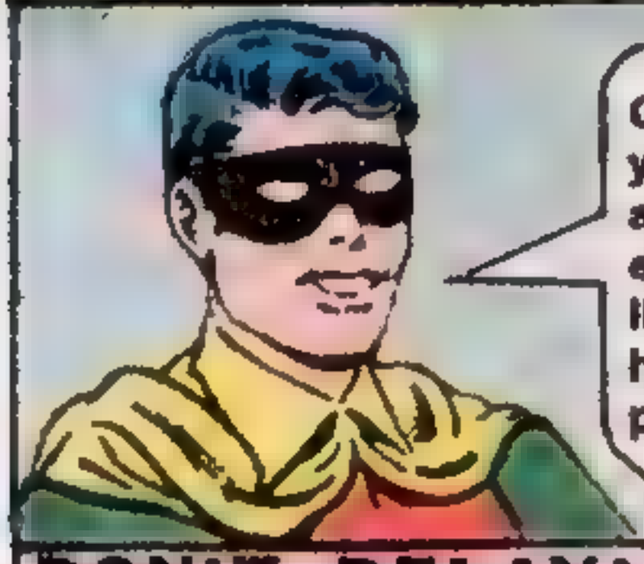

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PROGRESS REPORT!

WITHIN THE PAST TWO HOURS, **SUPERMAN** HAS STOPPED A MOUNTAIN AVALANCHE AND REPAIRED A COLLAPSING RAILROAD TRESTLE!

THIS PARACHUTE INCIDENT MAKES **SUPER-FEAT** NUMBER **FOUR!**

SHORTLY AFTERWARD...

MR. REED IS IN ROOM 101, MISS LANE!

THANK YOU, NURSE!

METROPOLIS GENERAL HOSPITAL

CLARK--WHAT IN THE WORLD ARE **YOU** DOING HERE? I--ER--FORGOT ALL ABOUT YOU IN THE CONFUSION AT THE **CIVIC CENTER** TODAY!

101

I'M CONCERNED ABOUT POOR REED, JUST AS YOU ARE, LOIS!

WHAT DO THE DOCTORS SAY?

THEY DON'T KNOW **WHAT** TO SAY! HE HASN'T REGAINED CONSCIOUSNESS... HIS RESPIRATION IS SO WEAK THE OXYGEN-TENT IS A **MUST!**

HIS PULSE IS DANGEROUSLY IRREGULAR...

HIS METABOLISM IS VERY ERRATIC ;**SOB!**;

IN FACT, REED'S CONDITION IS SO **CRITICAL** ;SNIFF;

--THE DOCTORS ;GULP; ADMIT WE COULD **LOSE** HIM AT ANY MOMENT!

BOO-BOO-HOO! ;SOB; **WAWWWW!**

CLARK, GET **HOLD** OF YOURSELF!

I KNOW IT'S TRAGIC, BUT THE MAN ISN'T DEAD YET! THERE'S STILL **HOPE!**

CURIOUS! HOW STRANGELY **SUPERMAN** IS ACTING, SIRE...

NOT **SO** STRANGE! AS I WAS JUST EXPLAINING TO **SR-6**, OUR SCIENTISTS WARNED ME THE GROWING **PULS-FLOW** IN **SUPERMAN** MIGHT CAUSE HIM TO LOSE CONTROL OF HIS **EMOTIONS!**

NORMALLY, HE WOULDN'T WEEP... BUT NOW HE CAN'T **STOP!**

BUT THE **GRAVE CONDITION** OF THE EARTHLING WHO WAS MISTAKENLY HIT BY OUR FIRST **PULS-BOLT?**

EVIDENTLY OUR SCIENTISTS WERE **WRONG** ABOUT THE **PULS-FLOW** BEING **HARMLESS** TO EARTHLINGS!

LATER THAT NIGHT, IN **METROPOLIS** HARBOR...

YOU'RE HEADING OUT TO SEA, BIG FELLA-- **WAY** OUT!

TWO-TON **MAN-EATERS** AREN'T WELCOME IN THESE WATERS!

AND LATER STILL...AS A **SUPER-FIREMAN!**...

WHOOOOSH!

HOW DID **SUPERMAN** FARE THROUGH THE NIGHT, **SR-5?**

AFTER DEALING WITH THE SHARK AND THE FIRE...HE THWARTED A MIDNIGHT ROBBERY ATTEMPT, THEN SAVED AN AIRLINER FROM CRASHING!

SUPER-FEATS 5, 6, 7 AND 8!

LATER THAT MORNING, IN THE **GALAXY BUILDING** --WHERE **WGBS'** ACE SPORTSCASTER **STEVE LOMBARD** ENTERTAINS AN ADMIRER ...

OH, STEVE--THERE'S YOUR CO-ANCHORMAN ON THE NEWS, ***CLARK KENT!*** I'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO ***MEET*** HIM!

MEET ***CLARK--*** ***"MR. SQUARE"?!***

TAKE MY WORD FOR IT, BABY-- YOU HAVEN'T MISSED ANYTHING!

CLARK MAY SOUND GOOD ***ON THE AIR...*** BUT ***IN PERSON*** HE'S GOT ALL THE CHARM OF A ***FLAT TIRE!***

ACTUALLY, I WAS GOING TO SAY ***CLARK*** IS ***LIVING PROOF*** THAT A ***NO-TALENT*** CAN MAKE IT IN OUR ***BUSINESS...***

...BUT WE'RE ***NOT*** EVEN SURE CLARK'S ***LIVING!***

OOOH,..MR. KENT OVERHEARD YOU--

...AND HE'S BROKEN OUT IN ***TEARS!***

HEY, OL' BUDDY, TURN OFF THE WATER-WORKS, HUH? I WAS JUST ***KIDDING!***

YOU KNOW ME-- ALWAYS READY WITH A FAST PUT-DOWN!

BELIEVE ME, CLARK, I'M SORRY!

I NEVER KNEW YOU WERE SO...UH... ***SENSITIVE!***

:SNIFF! NEITHER DID ***I!***

I JUST HAVEN'T BEEN ***MYSELF*** LATELY--

WHICH SHOULD BE AN ***/MPROVEMENT...*** BUT SOMEHOW ***/SN'T!***

STEVE LOMBARD-- YOU ARE A ***POLAR BEAR!***

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SCARCELY AN HOUR LATER...

WHOOOSHHH!

SCREECHHHHH

ERRKKKKK

WRONG WAY! DO NOT ENTER!

THAT COMPLETES FEAT NUMBER 9!

ONLY ONE MORE TO GO--**ONE MORE** EXTRA-EXERTION OF HIS SUPER-ENERGY--

--AND **SUPERMAN DROPS DEAD!**

SO LET US PATIENTLY **WATCH** AND **WAIT**--

SIRE!--IT APPEARS OUR WAIT IS **OVER!**

LOOK AT THE SCREEN!

MOMMMY!

LITTLE BOY IN TROUBLE-!

HAVE TO POUR ON THE SPEED TO CATCH HIM IN TIME!

S-SUPERMAN!

GOLLY

GEE

WHIZ!

BUT THE MOMENT THE **ACTION ACE** SAFELY LANDS WITH THE YOUNGSTER...

SUPERMAN--OHH?!?

SR-OZEGA REPORTING TO REVENGE SQUAD BASE!

PLUS-POISON MISSION ACCOMPLISHED! SUPERMAN DIED PRECISELY TWO MINUTES AGO!

AT LONG LAST OUR SQUAD HAS ACHIEVED ITS GOAL!

WE ARE RECEIVING YOU, OZEGA!

WE HAVE MONITORED YOUR MISSION CLOSELY... AND ARE PREPARING A SPECIAL WELCOME FOR YOU AND YOUR TWO SQUAD-ERS!

BUT WAIT...

...BEFORE THE SUPERMAN REVENGERS FIND OUT WHAT SORT OF REWARD AWAITS THEM BACK AT THEIR HOME BASE, LET US PAUSE--

--AND SHIFT OUR ATTENTION TO THE INERT BODY OF THEIR RED-AND-BLUE-GARBED VICTIM...

OKAY, PAL-- YOU CAN "COME BACK TO LIFE" NOW!

HOW WAS I, SUPERMAN?

GREG REED, YOUR DEATH-SCENE WOULD HAVE BEEN A SURE OSCAR-WINNER!

AND MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL--IT WAS ENOUGH TO CONVINCE THE REVENGE SQUAD!

JUST LIKE YOU FOOLED THEM INTO BELIEVING I DID ALL TEN OF THOSE SUPER-FEATS BY MYSELF!

THEY NEVER GUESSED GREGORY REED PERFORMED FIVE OF THEM!

RIGHT! THANKS TO ONE OF THOSE SUPER-POWER PILLS YOU FURNISHED ME!

BUT I STILL CAN'T FIGURE OUT WHAT TIPPED YOU OFF TO THE REVENGE SQUAD AND THEIR PLAN!

A SIMPLE REFLECTION, GREG!

"BACK AT THE **CIVIC PARK**, WHILE I WAS FISHING YOU OUT OF THE FOUNTAIN--I SPOTTED A **PINPOINT REFLECTION** OF SOMETHING HOVERING IN THE SKY HIGH ABOVE..."

GREAT KRYPTON!

NO NORMAL EYE COULD DISCERN THAT **TINY OBJECT** REFLECTED IN THE WATER--

--BUT MY **MICROSCOPIC VISION** REVEALS IT'S A SHIP FROM THE **SUPERMAN REVENGE SQUAD!**

"I TUNED IN ON THEIR SHIP WITH **SUPER-HEARING** AND LEARNED ABOUT THE DEADLY **PULS-FLOW** THEY BEAMED INTO ME!

"AND **THAT'S** WHEN I CAME UP WITH MY **PLAN...**"

PSST...GREG! I NEED YOUR **HELP!** TILL FURTHER NOTICE, I WANT YOU TO PRETEND YOU'RE IN A DEEP **COMA!**

I'M SURE THE HOSPITAL DOCTORS WILL COOPERATE AFTER I EXPLAIN!

THE MANIKIN OF **YOU** IN THE OXYGEN TENT--AND THE FAKE **EMOTIONAL FITS** I ACTED OUT IN MY **SECRET IDENTITY** COMPLETED THE RUSE!

THE TRICKY PART WAS SYNCHRONIZING OUR ACTIONS SO THEIR SCREENS NEVER SHOWED BOTH **SUPERMEN** OPERATING **SIMULTANEOUSLY!!**

SINCE I DIDN'T EXPEND ENOUGH SUPER-ENERGY TO **CHARGE** THE **PULS-FLOW**--IT'S DRAINED OUT OF MY BODY!

SPEAKING OF **DRAINING, SUPERMAN**--I JUST LOST MY **TEMPORARY** POWERS!

ONE MORE THING, **SUPERMAN**--WHY DID YOU LET THOSE WOULD-BE KILLERS **GET AWAY?**

ONE THING I'VE LEARNED OVER THE YEARS ABOUT THE **REVENGE SQUAD**--

--**THEY TAKE CARE OF THEIR OWN!**

IN A REMOTE PART OF THE **GALAXY**, AT THE PLANETOID BASE OF THE **SUPERMAN REVENGERS**...

SR-OZEGA'S SHIP IS APPROACHING, SUPREME SIRE!

VERY WELL! LET US GRANT THEM THE **REWARD** THEY SO RICHLY **DESERVE**--

--FOR **FAILING** SO MISERABLY!

The End

COMING SUPER-ATTRACTIONS

LOIS LANE KNOWS **CLARK KENT** CAN CONTACT **SUPERMAN!** BUT SHE WANTS TO KNOW **HOW?** SEE WHAT SHE DISCOVERS IN **"CLARK KENT CALLING SUPERMAN! CLARK KENT CALLING SUPERMAN!"**

IN THE APRIL **ACTION**--#446 ON SALE THE LAST WEEK IN JANUARY!

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Brian Eastman

AFTER

BEFORE

INSTANTLY - YOUR MUSCLES WILL BEGIN TO GROW!

NOT FOR THE SUPER

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CHERRY NOLLER SMILES TO HERSELF AS SHE PRANCES FROM AN UPPER-CRUST GAMBLING DEN INTO THE SUBURBAN NIGHT...

SHE'S JUST HELPED MAKE ANOTHER HUMAN BEING HAPPY-- AND ISN'T THAT WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT ANYWAY --MAKING OTHERS HAPPY...

CHERRY IS A SOCIAL THERAPIST --AND IF THE GAMBLING THERAPY SHE PRESCRIBES BORDERS THE EDGE OF THE LAW WHAT DOES THAT MATTER, AS LONG AS IT ENDS HER CLIENTS' DEPRESSIONS?...

OTHER THINGS MATTER, THOUGH, TO...

GREEN ARROW

MISS NOLLER--

EEP!

YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, BUT I NEED YOUR HELP TO...

"FIND BLACK CANARY, DEAD... OR ALIVE!"

STORY BY
MIKE GRELL & ELLIOT S! MAGGIN
ART BY
MIKE GRELL
EDITING BY
JULIUS SCHWARTZ & E. NELSON BRIDWELL

GREEN ARROW! WHAT ON THE LORD'S EARTH--

YOU'LL EXCUSE ME IF I PULL YOU BEHIND THESE DARK BUSHES TO TALK, MISS NOLLER--

OH, DEAR.. THAT *IS* A PROBLEM!

--BUT THE WOMAN I LOVE HAS BEEN ABDUCTED... AND PROBABLY *KILLED*... BY SOME MEN IN THERE--AND I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT!

"ALL STARTED BECAUSE I TRIED TO CONVINCE SOME KID IT'S NOT SMART TO POUR HOT LAVA INTO HIS VEINS..."

YOUR GRANDFATHER'S WORRIED SICK, TOMMY...

...HE THINKS YOU'LL END UP LIKE YOUR BIG BROTHER-- STRUNG ACROSS A SLAB IN THE MORGUE WITH A TAG AROUND YOUR TOE!

QUIT HASSLING ME, HERO! GO BUST A JAY-WALKER'S HEAD!

"DRUG TRADE IN *STAR CITY* HAD GOTTEN OUT OF HAND -- SO I LEANED ON THE MAN I SUSPECTED OF BEING BEHIND IT..."

"*MAX LUCKER*-- THE CLOWN WHO OWNS THIS CASINO..."

IF I FIND YOU'RE BUSTING KIDS' LIVES UP, LUCKER--YOU'LL WISH YOU' WERE BACK ON THE STREET WITH KNIVES AND ZIP GUNS!

I'LL GET *YOU* FOR THIS, *ARROW*-- I SWEAR!

"I PULLED OUT THE STOPS TRYING TO GET LUCKER TO MAKE JUST ONE FATAL MISTAKE..."

YOU SAY LUCKER'S KNEES BUCKLE EVERY TIME HE SEES A DYNAMITE BLONDE?

YEAH, DINAH--AND YOU'RE *TNT* ENOUGH TO GET HIM TO SPILL HIS LIFE STORY WHILE I MAKE TROUBLE FOR HIM IN TOWN!

"SHE CAME ON GREAT GUNS WITH LUCKER--AND MANAGED TO GET ME LOTS OF VITAL INFORMATION..."

"I USED THAT INFORMATION TO BE IN THE RIGHT PLACE AT A LOT OF THE RIGHT TIMES TO TURN THE CITY'S CRIME TRADE INTO A CIRCUS..."

FINALLY FOUND THE SYNDICATE'S WEAPONS ARSENAL--AND IT TOOK ALMOST THE WHOLE DAY!

RUNNING NUMBERS, MONK? WHERE YOU'RE GOING, YOU'LL *WEAR* ONE!

BAGGED A PAIR OF BAG-MEN--WHAT COPS HAVE YOU CORRUPTED TODAY?

"*BLACK CANARY* REPORTED TO ME BY PHONE...EVERYTHING WAS FINE UNTIL..."

WE THOUGHT YOU SHOULD HEAR THIS TAPE WE GOT, *ARROW!*

ICIDE

TELL *GREEN ARROW*...*THE BLACK CANARY IS DEAD*... AND TELL HIM WE DID IT *SLOW--!*

THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN, MISS NOLLER...YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE WITH ACCESS TO THIS PLACE WHOSE REPUTATION FOR HONESTY I CAN TRUST!

I BELIEVE *MAX LUCKER* IS THE AMERICAN MEMBER OF A CARTEL OF INTER-NATIONAL DOPE MERCHANTS...

...CALLING THEMSELVES THE *FOUR HORSEMEN!* BUT I NEED PROOF YOU MAY BE ABLE TO HELP ME FIND!

BLACK CANARY HAS ALREADY FAILED IN THE ATTEMPT...AND IF *YOU* DON'T AGREE TO--

MY SAKES--CERTAINLY I AGREE, *GREEN ARROW!*

CALL THE NUMBER I GAVE YOU, CHERRY--WHEN YOU SET IT ALL UP!

GOODNESS, *GREEN ARROW* ... DO BE *CAREFUL!*

AND WITHIN THE HOUR...

PHONE

RINNG

YES, CHERRY... I'LL COME IN EXACTLY FIVE MINUTES FROM NOW... THE DIVERSION IS SET UP?...

AND WHAT ABOUT *BLACK CANARY*-- COULD YOU FIND OUT...?

...GONE WITHOUT A TRACE --I DON'T KNOW *WHAT* THEY DID WITH *HER*... BUT YOU CAN REST ASSURED ABOUT YOUR OWN SAFETY...

NONE OF MR. LUCKER'S MEN WILL SEE YOU UNTIL YOU GET TO HIS OFFICE--

THE NIGHT BREEZE SEEMS TO WARN THE ARCHER LIKE A SIREN NOT TO ADD HIS OWN LIFE TO THOSE ALREADY FORFEIT...

BUT HE SHRUGS OFF THE "SIREN" AS HE SLIPS THROUGH A WINDOW...

INTO A ROOM HE HAS BEEN ASSURED WILL BE EMPTY...

...TO THE GILDED SLIME OF SOCIETY WHO DEAL POISON FOR PLEASURE...

AND WERE IT NOT FOR THE BRIEFEST POSSIBLE WHISTLE OF HARD WOOD THROUGH QUIET AIR...

HEY THERE, *SON OF KONG*...

...DON'T YOU KNOW ABOUT THE *DIVERSION* MY FRIEND SET UP DOWNSTAIRS?

CONTINUED ON 3RD PAGE FOLLOWING

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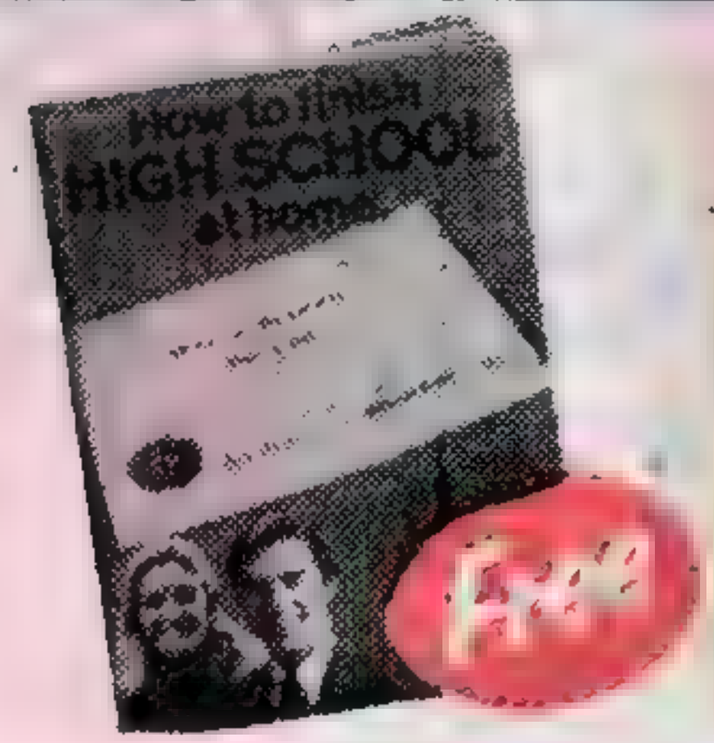

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NO NEED TO DO WITH AN *ARROW* WHAT I CAN DO WITH A *BOW*...

...OR A *FIST!*

MUST REMEMBER NEXT TIME CHERRY SAYS THE COAST IS CLEAR NOT TO TAKE HER WORD FOR IT!

THE *EMERALD ARCHER* BARRELS AT THE OFFICE OF THE GAMBLING DEN'S OWNER LIKE AN ENRAGED BUFFALO TO FIND...

DINAH... ALIVE! BY ALL THAT'S HOLY...

GREEN ARROW! GET ME LOOSE FROM THIS CHAIR!

AM I GLAD TO SEE--

ARROW-- LOOK OUT!

TRUSTED *YOU* TO TAKE CARE OF FUNGUS FACE THERE, PRETTY BIRD--

--SO I COULD NAIL THE *BIG ENCHILADA*, AGAIN!

ALL RIGHT, LUCKER-- *SING!* WHERE ARE YOU MEETING THE OTHER THREE HORSEMEN? HOW DO YOU SHIP THAT POWDERED CRUD INTO TOWN?

I--I'M *NOT* THE ONE YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, *GA!* I'M JUST A *MIDDLEMAN!*

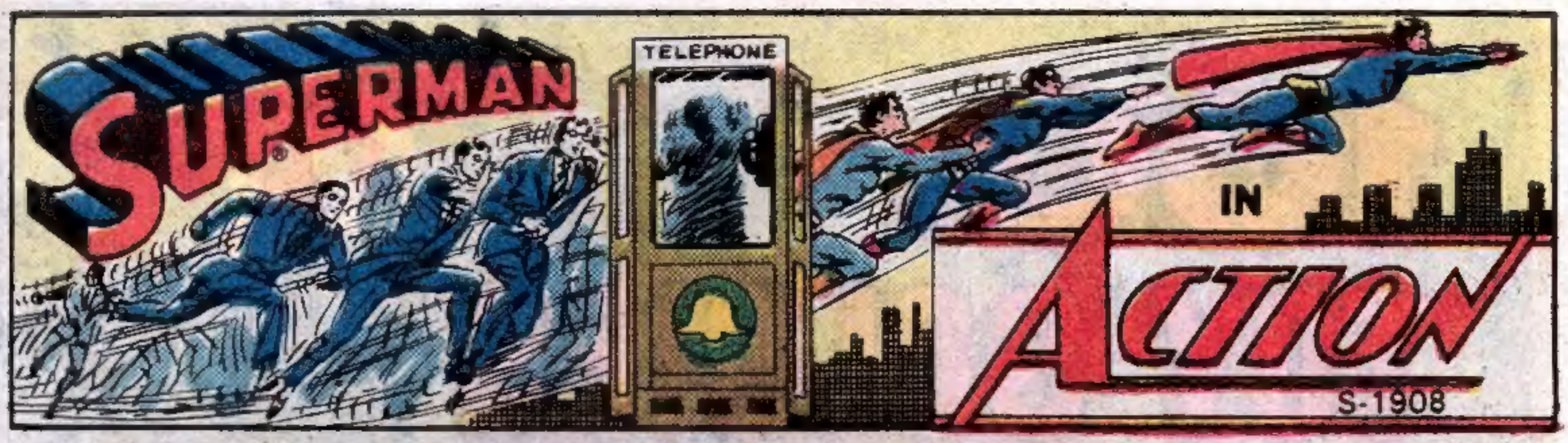
HE'S RIGHT, *GREEN ARROW!* YOU'VE BEEN WASTING YOUR EFFORT ON LUCKER...

...BECAUSE THE FOURTH "HORSEMAN" IS *ME!*

CHERRY..!

AND THE DARKNESS CONTINUES TO SWEEP OVER *GREEN ARROW* AND *BLACK CANARY*--

--UNTIL NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF *ACTION*...



Dear Editor:

The **Flash-Superman** team really has something, and it's always been one of my favorites. It **has** to have something to hold my interest (four of their five previous team-ups have been, more or less, races between them). The latest effort in **Action** #441, "Weather War over Metropolis," was excellent, from a sensational Cardy cover (Nick is the best cover man since Infantino) to the smooth, stylized art of Swan & Oksner. "Oscar Asherman" looks like somebody's editorial assistant who has a similar name, and I'd like to know if this was intentional or not. (Silly question! It could hardly be coincidence!)

The introduction of a rival reporter ought to be good for some more **Clark Kent** insight, and I suggest you keep **Dale Smith** around.

The **Superman-Flash** switch was nicely done . . they should be experts at it by now. In **Superman** #223, I believe, they both got amnesia and unconsciously adopted **each other's** life styles. (Sorry, E.N.B., but I beat you to the punch with this round's Trivia Tidbit.)

"The Mystery of the Wandering Dog" was excellent, also . . . Elliot Maggin has come out of his slump (a very short slump, I should add) with the latest **Green Arrow-Black Canary** team-up. Of course, I've been reading for years, and I knew from the start the dog was **Krypto**. Still, it was nice to see him again.

Mike Grell draws the **Arrow-Canary** team better than anybody I know, even Neal Adams. Please keep him on **Green Arrow** and you won't find a better back-up feature anywhere.

Bob Rodi, Oak Brook, Ill.

(Congratulations on noticing the similarity between the two ASHERMANS, OSCAR and ALLAN. But did you spot DALE SMITH's resemblance to a certain TV newsman? Hint: The comedy team of SMITH AND DALE did a skit about a certain DR. KRONKHITE. Notice the pronunciation?—E.N.B.)

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

Action #441 was not what I expected. I anticipated the **Weather Wizard** flitting about the skies of **Metropolis**, irritating **Superman** while **The Flash** zoomed around helplessly. **WW** was only in 2½ pages of the story and **The Flash** wasn't really necessary—he was just around for the old "switcheroo-the-costumes-and-fool-the-villain" trick.

I found it strange when **Supes** inhaled the blue tornado (you should get that blue tornado with **Red Tornado** and the Ajax white tornado; you'd really have something for our Bicentennial!)—his torso was extremely bloated. Weird, but nonetheless dramatic.

I'm rather nervous now. **The Batman** had better watch out, or **Flash** is going to replace him as **Superman's** No. 1 partner. Ever since those three controversial races, the **Crimson Comet** and our favorite **Kryptonian** have paired together in one way or another about four times.

Lastly, on the **Superman in Action** letterhead, **Clark** was shown wearing a purple suit. Far out!

Clint "Buc" Thomas, Oak Hill, W. Va.

• • • • •

Dear Editor:

Only a short while ago, I wrote asking you to bring back **Krypto**, since he's my favorite character. He really pulled **Green Arrow** out of the fire in "The Mystery of the Wandering Dog." It just goes to show that we dogs are smarter than you humans. Take my master, **Buc Thomas**—**please**—there's just no comparison!

I certainly hope **Krypto** regains his memory soon. And when he does, use him more often!

Boliver, Oak Hill, W. Va.

(I appreciate all but that crack about human intelligence. Consider this, pooch—Buc has had a good many letters in these mags—and this is only your second!—E.N.B.)

• • • • •

Dear Julie:

A few short words on the **Superman** story in **Action** #441. An excellent, well-paced story. Only one thing was missing: action. There just wasn't enough of it.

Opposite that, **Green Arrow** had just enough action and intrigue. I guessed last issue that **Demian** was **Krypto**. You **had** promised his return once before. Mike Grell's art was fine. Elliot S! Maggin's script was fun. One of those two was responsible for a whopping mistake. On page 5, panel 2, we see an aged **Green Arrow** and **Black Canary**. **BC** wears a wig. If you age a blonde wig several decades, it shouldn't turn white. Who will claim the error? Will it be the artist, the writer, or the editor?

Robert Greenbergerber, Jericho, N.Y.

(No buck-passing! We all saw it and should have caught it! And after realizing what a goof we made, we're the ones with the extra white hairs!—E.N.B.)

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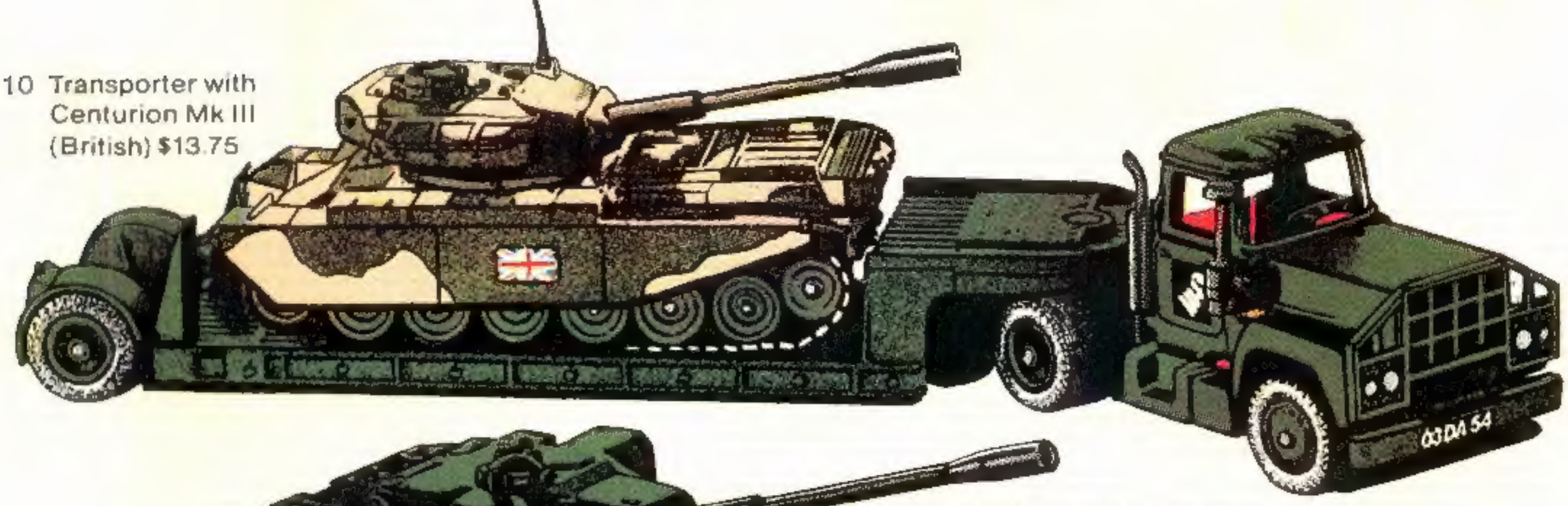

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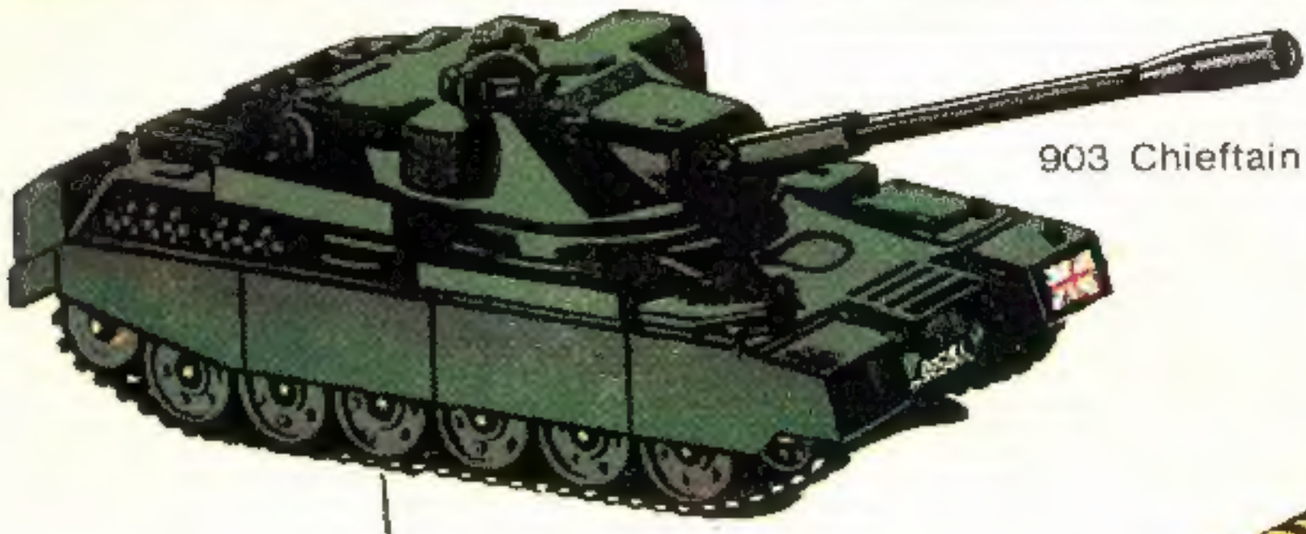

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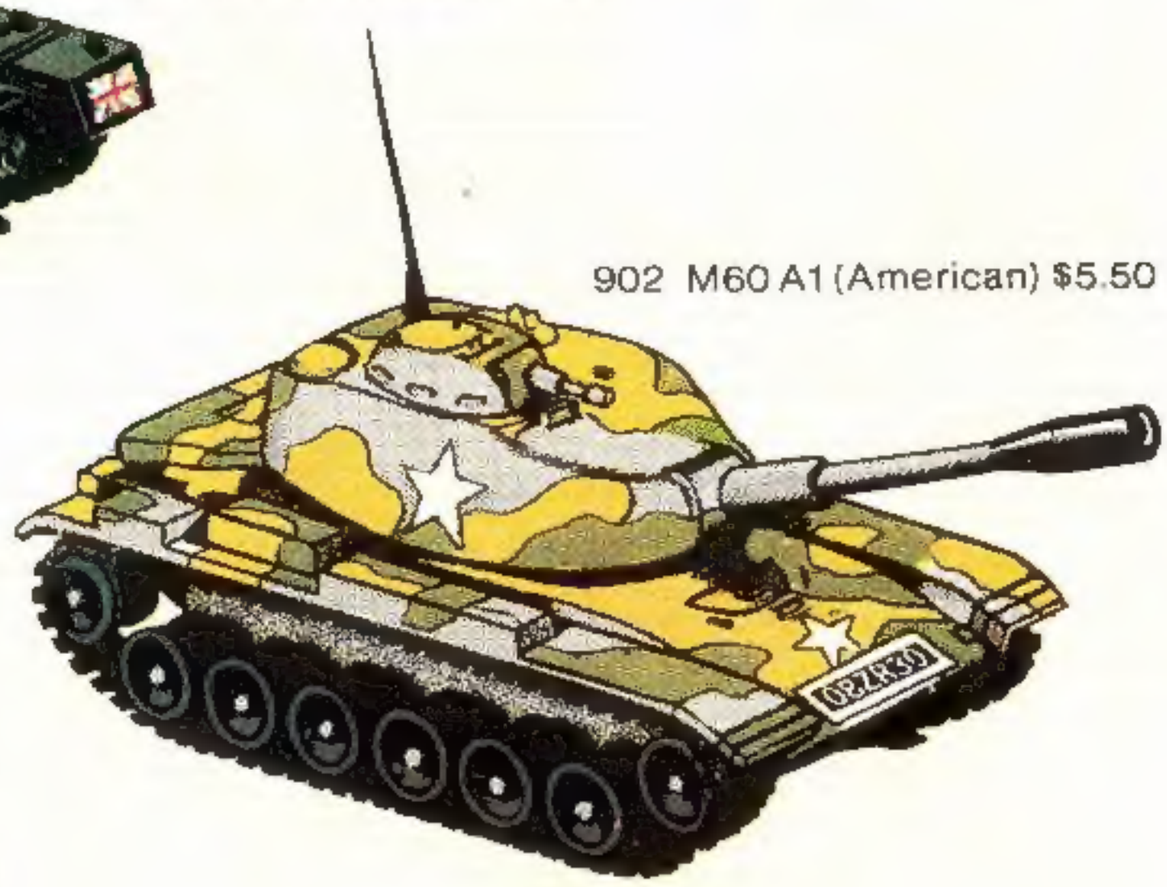

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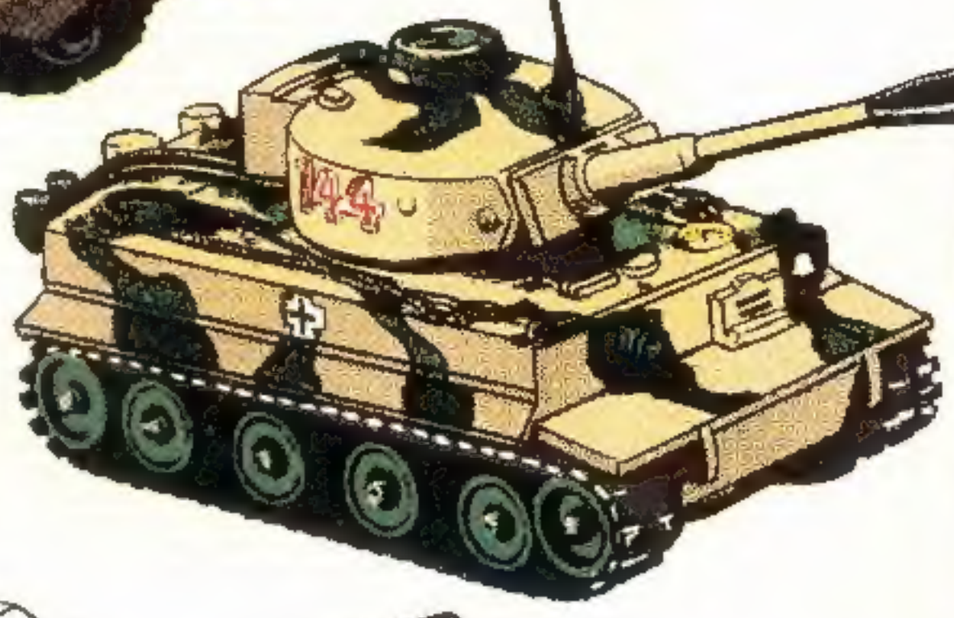

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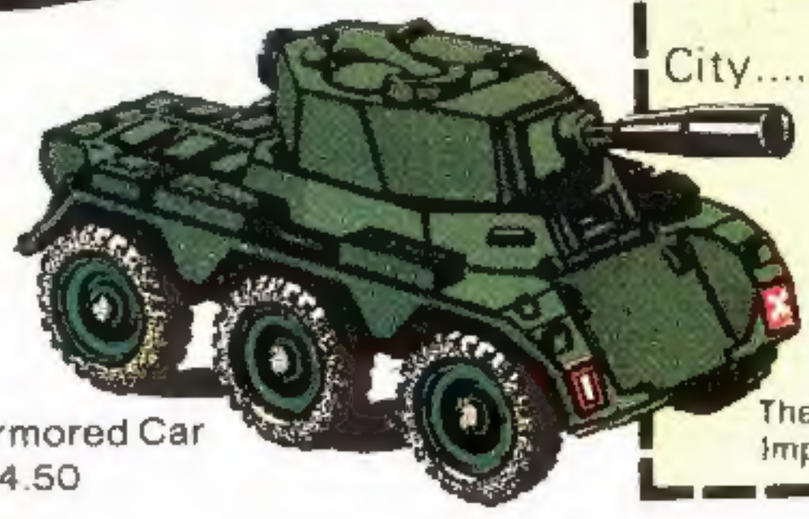

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